

Equalize the Number of Challenges and Give the State the Right of Appeal.

The Progressive Farmer, summing up statistics which it has collated, showing the number of challenges allowed the defence and the number allowed the State in capital cases in the different States of the Union, finds that for the country at large two peremptory challenges are allowed the defendant for one given the State, while in North Carolina the defence has five challenges to the State's one. Our contemporary's suggestions, therefore, for prevention of the miscarriages of justice, are: "Equalize the number of challenges; give the State the right of appeal." Very good, contemporary, but your suggestions will never be adopted. Too many people who are interested in the defeat of justice get into the Legislature.—Charlotte Observer.

Reviewing the two recent notable murder trials, The Progressive Farmer suggests that the time has come when the prosecution must be put on an equal footing with the defence. At present the defence has six times as many peremptory challenges as the prosecution, and, what is of great advantage, the defence has right of appeal while the prosecution, i. e., the State, has none. These suggestions strike us as timely and wise. Chief Justice Clark but recently pointed out that the present advantages of the defence are survivals of a day when the man on trial had no such advantages as are now provided for him. We feel sure that our General Assembly will be powerfully moved to make changes in this direction.—Biblical Recorder.

The Progressive Farmer, in discussing the failure of justice in the courts, thinks that one great deficiency is that the defendant in a capital case has twenty-three challenges in selecting the jury while the State has only four, an advantage which permits a shrewd lawyer to select just the sort of jury he wants. In many States the State and the defendant have an equal number of challenges, while in only a few is the disparity so great as it is in North Carolina. The Farmer says: "Equalize the number of challenges. Give the State the right of appeal. These reforms ought to be discussed in the press and on the platform throughout North Carolina, and the next General Assembly should put them on our statute books. It is the painful truth that our present system encourages crime, weakens respect for law, fosters lynching, and menaces the peace and safety of our citizens. Let us still give the prisoner his twelve chances to one before the jury, but if the public is not to lose the power of self-protection, it must be on an equal footing with the criminal in selecting the jury and in righting the wrongs brought about by unjust rulings or corrupt practices."

When Shemwell was acquitted of the murder of Dr. Payne, at Lexington, the State press rang with just

as much indignation as has been expressed on account of the verdict in the Haywood case. The State Press Association, which met at Greensboro soon after the trial, adopted a resolution calling on the Legislature to change the law which gives the prisoner so great an advantage. The Legislature ignored the request. At the last session of the Legislature Mr. King, of Pitt, introduced a similar measure. The Judiciary Committee, composed of lawyers of course, smothered King's bill, and it was never heard of again. So long as the lawyers control the Legislature the press and pulpit may shout themselves black in the face at the injustice—but the law won't be changed—unless there is such an uprising as to frighten the politicians. So far the uprising is not in sight.—Statesville Landmark.

Cumberland County Alliance.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

On Wednesday before the second Thursday in October, Cumberland County Farmers' Alliance held its regular meeting with Godwin Sub at Godwin. President Hector Strickland being absent, Bro. S. J. McLaurin, vice-president, called the meeting to order and announced to the audience that we were going to hold open meeting and that all present were invited to remain in the hall during our deliberations. There were several spectators present, and ladies and children, too. We are glad that the ladies of Cumberland County are again taking an interest in the Farmers' Alliance. We should always discuss something at our meetings to encourage the ladies to attend our meetings, and also to participate in them. All good Alliance people should also endeavor to train the youthful minds in the Farmers' Alliance principles, so that the boys and girls will become useful members of our Order. This end can only be accomplished by the older active members performing their whole duty, and not by fault-finding. We know of members of Alliance families that take no interest in Alliance work; they seem to think that there is no good in the Alliance, except financially, from the fact that they have not been informed otherwise. I suggest that all the Subs endeavor to build themselves up in this manner and report at next county meeting their success or failure, etc.; also discuss all the phases of farming for the past year.

D. D. BAIN, Sec.,
Cumberland Co., N. C.

Notice! Edgecombe Alliancemen.

A special meeting of Edgecombe County Alliance will be held at the court-house in Tarboro, on Tuesday, November 17th, 1903, at noon, to perfect the organization and transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

R. G. HART, Sec.

The yellow fever situation at Laredo, Texas, is improving.

7.

Only seven pigs are offered for November. But they carry the blood of Loyal Berks and Dorset Lad. Price \$5.00.
H. H. WILLIAMS,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

IN COLUMBIA, S. C.,

THE DRAUGHON

PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE CO.

Draughon's Practical Business College Co., with headquarters at Nashville, Tenn., will open school NUMBER NINE in Columbia, S. C., Monday, November 2, 1903. This company with a capital stock of \$300,000 has schools established in Atlanta, Ga., Nashville, Tenn., and several other places, with special facilities for securing positions, having business men associated with it all over the South. Fourteen bankers are on its Board of Directors. It gives a superior course of instruction.

Those who wish to secure employment, may, if they prefer, pay the tuition out of salary after the position is secured. Special rates will be given to all who enter the Columbia College during the next sixty days. For Catalogue, which will explain all, address Draughon's Practical Business College Co., Nashville, Tenn., or Atlanta, Ga., or Columbia, S. C., after October 25th.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION IN 1904.

As the years increase The Youth's Companion endeavors to keep pace with them in all that is wise, beautiful and progressive, and not only to retain but to deserve the honorable and exceptionally high place it holds in the confidence and affection of three generations of readers. The greatest living authors in all branches of literature continue to contribute to it.

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The annual Announcement Number of The Companion, describing the principal features of The Companion's new volume, will be sent to any address, free.

The new subscriber for 1904 will receive all the issues of The Companion for the remaining weeks of 1903 free from the time of subscription; also The Companion Calendar for 1904, lithographed in twelve colors and gold.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION,
144 Berkeley St., Boston, Mass.

WINTER TOURIST RATES SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Effective October the 15th, the Southern Railway announces the sale of winter tourist rates. Tickets will be sold daily until April 30th, with final limit May 31st, 1904.

The following rates will apply from Raleigh to points named:

Austin, Tex.	\$61.85
Bartow, Fla.	39.55
Cedar Keys, Fla.	35.05
Date City, Fla.	37.25
Deland, Fla.	34.15
El Paso, Tex.	80.45
Gainesville, Fla.	31.70
Galveston, Tex.	57.10
Havana, Cuba	80.55
Houston, Tex.	55.10
Jacksonville, Fla.	27.45
Miami, Fla.	49.45
Palm Beach, Fla.	45.95
St. Augustine, Fla.	29.95
San Antonio, Tex.	63.45
Tampa, Fla.	40.05
Thomasville, Ga.	26.15
Tate Springs, Tenn.	15.10

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